

Woodrow Wilson's 14 Points Analysis

Name _____

Primary Source Analysis Worksheet

Excerpt from Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points speech – January 8, 1918

<p>I. Open covenants of peace, openly arrived at, after which there shall be no private international understandings of any kind but diplomacy shall proceed always frankly and in the public view.</p> <p>II. Absolute freedom of navigation upon the seas, outside territorial waters, alike in peace and in war...</p> <p>III. The removal, so far as possible, of all economic barriers and the establishment of an equality of trade conditions among all the nations ...</p> <p>IV. Adequate guarantees given and taken that national armaments will be reduced to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety.</p>	<p><u>Important Ideas & Summary</u></p> <p>I.</p> <p>II.</p> <p>III.</p> <p>IV.</p>
<p>V. A free, open-minded, and absolutely impartial ...[judgment, decision] of all colonial claims, based upon a strict observance of the principle that in determining all such questions of sovereignty [<i>self-determination</i>] the interests of the populations concerned must have equal weight with the equitable claims of the government whose title is to be determined.</p> <p>VI. OMIT</p> <p>VII. Belgium, the whole world will agree, must be evacuated and restored [<i>remember, soldiers from both sides are there – trench warfare</i>], without any attempt to limit the sovereignty which she enjoys in common with all other free nations. . . .</p> <p>VIII. All French territory should be freed and the invaded portions restored...in order that peace may once more be made secure in the interest of all.</p>	<p><u>Important Ideas & Summary</u></p> <p>V.</p> <p>VII.</p> <p>VIII.</p>

<p>IX. A readjustment of the frontiers of Italy should be effected along clearly recognizable lines of nationality.</p> <p>X. The peoples of Austria-Hungary...should be accorded the freest opportunity to autonomous development [i.e. <i>self-determination</i>].</p> <p>XI. Rumania, Serbia, and Montenegro should be evacuated [by any soldiers there]; occupied territories restored; Serbia accorded free and secure access to the sea... and international guarantees of the political and economic independence and territorial integrity of the several Balkan states should be entered into.</p> <p>XII. The Turkish portion of the ... Ottoman Empire should be assured a secure sovereignty, but the other nationalities which are now under Turkish rule should be assured an ... opportunity of autonomous development...</p>	<p><u>Important Ideas & Summary</u></p> <p>IX.</p> <p>X.</p> <p>XI.</p> <p>XII.</p>
<p>XIII. An independent Polish state should be erected which should include the territories inhabited by ... Polish populations, which should be assured a free and secure access to the sea, and whose political and economic independence and territorial integrity should be guaranteed by international covenant.</p> <p>XIV. A general association of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike.</p>	<p><u>Important Ideas & Summary</u></p> <p>XIII.</p> <p>XIV.</p>

The Treaty of Versailles

Why did the Germans hate the Treaty of Versailles so much?

This is important to understand, because the way that the Germans reacted to the signing of the Treaty was a major factor in Hitler's rise to power.

In order to understand why the Germans hated the Treaty so much, we need to take a closer look at what some of the clauses within the treaty said.

1. **Germany had to accept total responsibility for starting the war.** This was called the 'War Guilt Clause', or Article 231.
2. **Germany had to pay £6,600 million to the Allies** to cover the damage it had caused during the war. This was a form of compensation known as reparations.
3. **Germany had to hand over 70,000 square kilometres of land to the Allies.** The allies shared this land out amongst countries within Europe. For example, Alsace-Lorraine was returned to France (the Germans had taken it off France in 1871), West Prussia and Posen were given to Poland, and Eupen and Malmedy were given to Belgium. This was supposed to make Germany weaker, and make other European countries stronger. This would help to prevent Germany invading its neighbours within Europe in future years.
4. **Germany had to hand over all its colonies to the Allies**
Colonies are areas of land that are governed by a Parent State although they are outside of that state – they are abroad. Germany's colonial Empire amounted to about one million square miles. One of the largest areas to be taken from Germany was in Africa. The Union of South Africa administered German South-West Africa. Britain, France and Belgium divided up the rest of the African land governed by Germany.
5. **The German armed forces were to be reduced greatly.** The Reichwehr (Army) were only allowed 100,000 men, and were not allowed to use conscription (forcing ordinary men to join the army for a period of time). The Navy was limited to 15,000 sailors.
6. **The German navy had to be reduced greatly.** They were only allowed to keep 6 battle ships. They were only allowed 15,000 men.
7. **The use and production of weaponry was limited.**

The Germans were not allowed an airforce or any submarines. The Navy was only allowed six battleships and the buying of any further war materials was banned.

8. **The Rhineland had to be occupied by Allied troops.**

This area bordered France and was meant to give the French greater security. The occupation was to last for fifteen years and no German troops were to be allowed into the area.

7. What impact would this type of treaty have on Germany?

Complete the table to show how you think the treaty would have affected Germany.

The Treaty of Versailles

Point from the Treaty	Damage Germany economically	Damage Germany militarily	Damage Germany's pride